

From: [Benjamin Shorr](#)
To: [Russell Jones](#); [JETT Steven](#)
Cc: [Jennifer Peers](#); [anderson.jim@deq.state.or.us](#); [MCCLINCY.Matt@deq.state.or.us](#); [Eric Blischke/R10/USEPA/US@EPA](#)
Subject: Re: LWG mapping tool
Date: 04/24/2009 10:18 AM

Hey folks-

To clarify regarding detection limits- here are the notes that were included in the map file sent by LWG:

NOTES:

1. Non-detect values were handled following the Risk Assessment rules, which include use of half the detection limit and the maximum detection limit for non-detected sums.
2. The contouring shown is based on Natural Neighbors analysis. This method of interpolation creates weights for the assumed "area of influence" around each input point. The area of influence is determined by the proportional contribution of each point's Thiessen polygon to the location at which an interpolation must be made.

I take this to mean that for individual (non-summed) contaminants, 1/2 the DL was used and for summed values (e.g. Total PCBs, Total PAHs) the maximum detection limit was used.

Sorry about any confusion and hopefully this is clear guidance for you Steven.

Thanks!
Ben

Russell Jones wrote:

Hi Ben-

During yesterday's call there was a brief discussion about how samples with non-detects and high detection limits were handled in the natural neighbors interpolation. Can you tell me if those corresponding samples were ignored or treated differently in some manner? Also, was this consistent across all contaminants?

Thanks much for any info. you can provide.

Russ

Russell Jones
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